

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 1022

VIENNA FOR MBFR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR HU US

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER PETER COMMENTS ON MBFR AND
ASIAN SECURITY (CODEL CANNON)

1. SUMMARY. DURING ONE- HOUR MEETING WITH SENATORS
CANNON AND MOSS HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PETER WAS
UNUSUALLY FRANK IN DISCUSSING A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS IN-
CLUDING EAST- WEST RELATIONS AND THE QUESTION OF HUNGARIAN
INCLUSION IN MBFR. ON LATTER TOLD SENATORS INTER ALIA
THAT HUNGARY DID NOT WANT A UNILATERAL WITHDRAWAL OF
US FORCES FROM EUROPE. END SUMMARY.

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2. EAST- WEST RELATIONS: PETER UNDERSCORED IMPORTANCE FOR HUNGARY OF CONTINUED FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS, SAYING HUNGARIANS BECOME NERVOUS AT THOUGHT OF SOMETHING HAPPENING TO DISTURB THIS TREND. DURING MEETING HE MADE SEVERAL OTHER OBLIQUE REFERENCES TO HUNGARIAN DEPENDENCE UPON SOVIETS IN FOREIGN POLICY QUESTIONS.

3. MBFR: PETER COMMENTED THAT HE TOLD SECRETARY ROGERS IN PARIS DURING CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM THAT THOSE WHO SEEK WHT WITHDRAWAL OR REDUCTION OF SOVIET TROOPS FROM HUNGARY WITHOUT CONCOMITANT REDUCTION OF US FORCES IN ITALY AND MEDITERRANEAN MAY THINK THAT THEY ARE WORKING IN HUNGARY'S INTEREST BUT ACTUALLY ONS TO THE SOVIETS WHEN DISCUSSIONS RESUME ON THIS TOPIC NEXT WEEK (BY BEGINNING NEGOTIATIONS ON THE INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH OF THE MANDATE, AS THE WARSAW PACT DELEGATES PREFER, AND BY USING THE COMPROMISE AUSTRIAN TEXT OF THIS PARAGRAPH AS BASIS FOR DISCUSSION INSTEAD OF THE DANISH / NATO DRAFT). AT THE SAME TIME, ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES HAVE CRITICIZED CERTAIN ELEMENTS IN THE NEW SOVIET POSITION, REFLECTING THEIR BELIEF THAT SOME FURTHER SOVIET CONCESSIONS ARE OBTAINABLE. IN A PRIVATE ASIDE TO VEST, SOVIET AMBASSADOR MENDELEVICH INDICATED SATISFACTION AT THE INITIAL ALLIED RESPONSE TO MOSCOW'S MORE CONCILIATORY POSITION ON THIS ISSUE.

3. THERE WERE NO MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS WITH RESPECT TO OTHER TOPICS CURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION HERE (PRINCIPLES OF RELATIONS; MILITARY SECURITY ISSUES; MEDITERRANEAN; AND CSCE FINANCING).
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